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ABSTRACT

This unit is designed to introduce students to individuals who have been important in U.S. history and who contributed to society. Students are asked to research, study, and portray an important person from one of the following fields: leaders, sports figures, humanitarians/philanthropists, industrialist/business figures, entertainment, scientists/explorers, and literary/arts. Some of the activities students are asked to do include reading a biography of the person, developing a time line, writing a letter to the person's mother, presenting an original monologue, designing a tee-shirt, creating a tombstone with an appropriate epitaph, and creating a map and developing a graph. The document includes information concerning the unit: goals and objectives, outline, projects, forms, resources, correspondence, sample projects, questions and answers, and bibliography. (DB)

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PEOPLE ON PARADE

BY

LOIS KAHN

★ An Idea Packet ★

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PEOPLE ON PARADE

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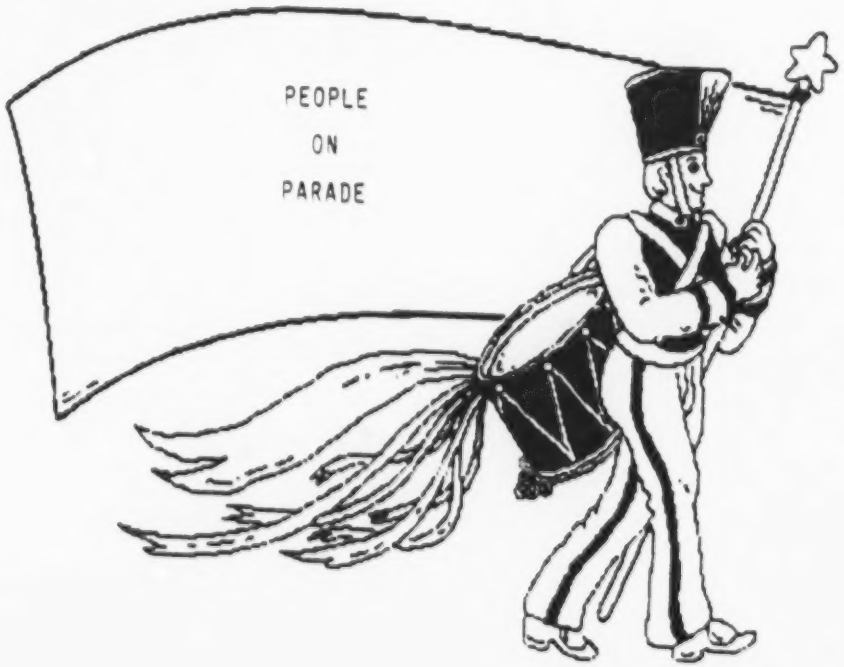

INTRODUCTION

People on Parade is an interdisciplinary unit designed to introduce students to individuals who have shaped and changed America. By investigating and learning about important persons in America's past and present, students will realize that people regardless of cultural, ethnic, religious, or racial backgrounds can strive for and achieve success.

Each student will research, study, and portray an important person. Some of the activities are reading a biography of the person, developing a time line, writing a letter to the person's mother, presenting an original monologue, designing a tee-shirt, creating a tombstone with an appropriate epitaph, creating a map and developing a graph. Reading, writing, research and critical thinking skills will be reinforced as students investigate their chosen person and complete the required and optional activities. The culminating event is when the students, dressed as their selected person, transform the media center into a cornucopia of color and culture for their peers, parents, and other guests.

People on Parade can be used with all grades and achievement levels. More advanced students can work independently and present projects to the other students according to the timetable established. Less advanced students can complete and present the projects in the classroom setting.

As students are given the opportunity to learn about persons who have made America great the content areas become alive. Students will experience the disappointments and achievements of interesting and important people.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goals

People on Parade will help acquaint students with important Americans, past and present. As the students research and study about their selected person, they will develop a greater understanding of people who have been successful and contributed to society. Through application, this interdisciplinary unit will demonstrate the relationship of the various subjects in the curriculum. Additionally, People on Parade incorporates skills related to the state adopted curriculum frameworks.

Objectives

"Biography can inspire us not only by adulation, but also by realism. It helps us to see not only the qualities in others that we hope to emulate, but also the weaknesses that made them "human." By helping us to identify with the subject on a more personal level, they help us to feel that we, too, can achieve such goals."

Matina Horner
Former President of Radcliffe College

The quotation above captures the essence of People on Parade.

OUTLINE

Timeline

People on Parade should be completed in a six to eight week period of time. It can enhance the existing curriculum or be a separate unit of study.

Week One	Explain People on Parade to students Explanatory letter to parents sent home* List of People on Parade persons and selection sheet sent home*
Week Two	Required and optional activities/project sheets and due dates are given to students* Take class to media center to select appropriate materials
Weeks Three through Seven	If possible, field trip to public and/or university library Required activities/projects presented to class Optional activities presented to class
Week Eight	Culminating activity-People on Parade-will transform the media center into a cornucopia of color and culture

* Samples/handouts included in packet

PROJECTS

People on Parade

The following activities/projects are required and must be turned into the subject area teacher on the due date:

Language Arts (Due Date)	Read a biography of your person's life. If one is not available, read five periodicals and/or encyclopedia entries. A bibliography for periodical and/or encyclopedia entries must be submitted. Obtain approval from your language arts teacher for your choice of material.
Math (Due Date)	Design a circle graph pertaining to your person's life.
Language Arts (Due Date)	Write a letter from the person to his mother describing personal achievements and accomplishments. Design and/or use appropriate stationery.
Social Studies (Due Date)	Make a map showing where your person lived, traveled, and worked.
Science (Due Date)	Design a birth certificate. Use as many facts as you can; approximate the rest. Include: baby's legal name, parent's names, weight, height, time and date born, place born, footprints, attending physician's signature. Size: 8½" by 11". (This may not be done on a computer.)
Math (Due Date)	Design a tombstone with an appropriate epitaph.
Social Studies (Due Date)	Design a tee-shirt. The design could be a picture of your person, a slogan he/she might have used, or a design pertinent to his/her life. A paper tee-shirt form will be distributed in class or you may put the design on a real tee-shirt.

REQUIRED ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS (CONTINUED)

SCIENCE (DUE DATE)	MAKE A CHRONOLOGICAL TIMELINE OF YOUR PERSON'S LIFE. INCLUDE AT LEAST TEN SIGNIFICANT THINGS AND FIVE SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS THAT OCCURRED DURING HIS/HER LIFETIME. MINIMUM SIZE: 8" BY 24".
LANGUAGE ARTS (DUE DATE)	DEVELOP A 60-90 SECOND MONOLOGUE TELLING ABOUT THE LIFE OF YOUR PERSON AND HIS/HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS. PLEASE NOTE: THIS MONOLOGUE WILL BE ALSO BE PRESENTED AT PEOPLE ON PARADE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE MEDIA CENTER.
ALL SUBJECTS (DATE)	FIELD TRIP TO THE PUBLIC OR UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS FIELD TRIP.
SOCIAL STUDIES (DUE DATE)	YOU MUST COMPLETE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING: MAKE A FAMILY TREE TRACING A PERSON BACK AS FAR AS POSSIBLE. SKETCH YOUR PERSON, USING LARGE PAPER. MAKE A PERSONALIZED VANITY LICENSE PLATE FOR YOUR PERSON. DESIGN A BUMPER STICKER THAT PERTAINS TO YOUR PERSON. PREPARE AN ORIGINAL VIDEO ABOUT YOUR PERSON.
ALL STUDENTS (DATE)	YOU MUST PARTICIPATE IN PEOPLE ON PARADE ON _____, 199__.

FORMS

Selection Sheet - To be given to students to take home. Parents are to approve student's selection. Teacher will collect all selection sheets and make selection changes if two students select the same person. Only one teacher, decided beforehand, needs to sign the form.

People on Parade

You will choose a person to portray for an entire day. Your person must have made a positive contribution to society. No two students may portray the same person. Your choice is due by _____, 199__.

My person is _____

_____
Student's Signature

Approved _____
Parent's Signature

Approved _____
Teacher's Signature

People on Parade Grade Sheet

Student_____ Grade_____

Person Portrayed_____

I. Classroom Projects	Total Out Of	Points Awarded
Circle Graph	4	_____
Letter to mother	4	_____
Map	4	_____
Tombstone	4	_____
Birth Certificate	4	_____
Tee Shirt	4	_____
Time Line	4	_____
Activity of Choice	4	_____
II. People on Parade		
Costume	20	_____
Monologue	8	_____
Creativity	20	_____
Overall Effect	20	_____
	Total	_____

Please note: Each teacher fills out section I individually. During People on Parade the teachers cooperatively fill out section II.

People on Parade Instructions for Displays

The People on Parade extravaganza will take place in the media center on_____,199_from_____to_____. Your parents and other school officials will be invited to attend. Please follow the directions below.

1. Displays must be brought to the media center on_____, _____,199_.

2. Your name may NOT be visible on the front of the project. You will be assigned a number for grading purposes. (Points off if your name is visible.) Your grades will be compiled on a separate grade sheet.

3. Displays may not be bigger than a three sided display board. (Such as used for science fair projects.)

4. Projects turned in through out the People on Parade unit are to be part of the display. Your display must be attractive, appealing to the eye, neat and creative.

5. Your display will be placed in one of the following categories:

   Leaders (Government, Political, Civil Rights, Military)
   Sports Figures
   Entertainment
   Humanitarians and Philanthropists
   Literary/Arts
   Industrialists/Business Figures
   Scientists/Explorers

6. On_____students will be in costume in the media center no later than 8:30 am. If you do not come in costume you will receive a failing grade for the entire project.

7. Throughout the People on Parade extravaganza be prepared to describe your display and give your monologue that you presented in Language Arts class about your person.

I understand all requirements of People on Parade. I understand that if I do NOT come in costume on_____I will not receive a passing grade for People on Parade.

_____ _____

Student's Signature Parent's Signature

THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINE CAN BE HANDED OUT TO STUDENTS TO HELP THEM GATHER INFORMATION AND PREPARE THEIR 60-90 SECOND MONOLOGUE.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

1. WHAT ARE THE PERSON'S MOST NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS?
2. WHAT WERE THE PERSON'S EARLY GOALS/IDEALS? WAS HE/SHE SUCCESSFUL IN REACHING THEM?
3. DID THE PERSON HAVE TO RISE ABOVE ADVERSITY TO ACHIEVE HIS/HER GOALS?
4. WHAT CONTRIBUTIONS DID THE PERSON MAKE IN HIS/HER CHOSEN FIELD AND TO SOCIETY AS A WHOLE?
5. WHAT WERE THE TURNING POINTS IN HIS/HER LIFE?
6. WHAT ARE THE PERSON'S GREATEST STRENGTHS AND/OR WEAKNESSES?
7. WILL KNOWLEDGE OF THE PERSON HELP YOU IN YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE?
8. IS THE PERSON A SUITABLE ROLE MODEL?

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RESOURCES

A List - From A to Z

Below is an abbreviated list of people students could select to portray. The list is divided into seven categories. On the day People on Parade is presented, signs should be made and hung for each category. Students will set up their displays according to the category.

Leaders (Government, Political, Civil Rights, Military)

Dwight David Eisenhower
Ralph Bunche
Harry Truman
Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Sandra Day O'Connor
Earl Warren
John F. Kennedy
Susan B. Anthony
George S. Patton
George Marshall
Thurgood Marshall
Mary McLeod Bethune
W.E.B. DuBois
Cesar Chavez
Eddie Rickenbaker
Oliver Wendell Holmes
Rosa Parks
A. Philip Randolph
Daniel Inouye
Shirley Chisolm
Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sports Figures

George Herman "Babe" Ruth
Joe Louis
Knute Rockne
Jim Thorpe
Johny Unitas
Wilt Chamberlain
Henry "Hank" Aaron
Vince Lombardi
Michael Jordan
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar
Jackie Robinson
Billie Jean King
Mildred "Babe" Didric on
Mickey Mantle
Lou Gehrig
Roberto Clemente

A List - From A to Z (continued)

HUMANITARIANS/PHILANTHROPISTS

Helen Keller
Annie Sullivan
Clara Barton
Juliette Low
Eleanor Roosevelt
Andrew Carnegie

INDUSTRIALISTS/BUSINESS FIGURES

John D. Rockefeller
Henry Flagler
Henry Ford
Lee Iaocca
Estee Lauder

ENTERTAINMENT

P.T. Barnum
Walt Disney
Harry Houdini
Annie Oakley
Buffalo Bob Smith
Mary Martin
Rita Moreno
Irving Berlin
Clark Gable
Martha Graham
George M. Cohan
Vicky Carr
Joan Baez
Bob Dylan
Louis Armstrong
Chita Rivera
John Philip Sousa
Woody Guthrie

SCIENTISTS/EXPLORERS

Ronald McNair
Alan Shepard
Albert Einstein
Christa McAuliffe
Sally Ride
Chuck Yeager
Amelia Earhart
Jonas Salk
Alexander Graham Bell
Thomas Edison

A List - From A to Z (continued)

SCIENTISTS/EXPLORERS (continued)

Orville Wright
Wilbur Wright
Matthew Henson

LITERARY/ARTS

William Randolph Hearst
Georgia O'Keefe
Winslow Homer
Andrew Wyeth
Ernest Hemingway
Aaron Copelan
Julia Ward Howe
Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain)
Grandma Moses
Leonard Bernstein
Alvin Ailey
Marian Anderson
Dr. Seuss
Charles Schultz
O. Henry (William Sydney Porter)
Edgar Allen Poe
Norman Rockwell
Nellie Bly
Joseph Pultizer
Mary Cassatt

Please note: This list can be adjusted to suit the needs of the teachers involved. Naturally, not all important figures could be included in this list.

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CORRESPONDENCE

A LETTER EXPLAINING PEOPLE ON PARADE SHOULD BE SENT HOME TO THE PARENTS. BE SURE TO OBTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL OF THE LETTER SENT HOME. BELOW IS A SAMPLE LETTER.

DEAR PARENTS,

(NAME OF SCHOOL/TEAM) TEACHERS ARE BEGINNING WHAT WE HOPE WILL BECOME A TRADITION--PEOPLE ON PARADE. WE HAVE PUT MUCH TIME AND PLANNING INTO THE UNIT. IT HAS BEEN SET UP AS AN INTERDISCIPLINARY UNIT INVOLVING THE CORE ACADEMIC SUBJECTS (LANGUAGE ARTS, MATH, SCIENCE AND SOCIAL STUDIES.) EACH STUDENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO RESEARCH, STUDY AND PORTRAY AN IMPORTANT PERSON IN AMERICA'S HISTORY. SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: READING A BIOGRAPHY OF THE PERSON, DEVELOPING A TIMELINE, WRITING A LETTER TO THE PERSON'S MOTHER, PRESENTING AN ORIGINAL MONOLOGUE, DESIGNING A TEE-SHIRT, WRITING AN EPITAPH, AND MAKING A CIRCLE GRAPH. SEVERAL WEEKS OF VERY HARD WORK WILL GO INTO THIS PROJECT. THE CULMINATION OF THIS INTERDISCIPLINARY UNIT WILL BE PEOPLE ON PARADE WHEN ALL OF THE COSTUMED STUDENTS WILL CHANGE THE MEDIA CENTER INTO A CORNUCOPIA OF COLOR AND CULTURE.

PLEASE PLAN ON JOINING US ON_____,19___ FOR PEOPLE ON PARADE!

SINCERELY,

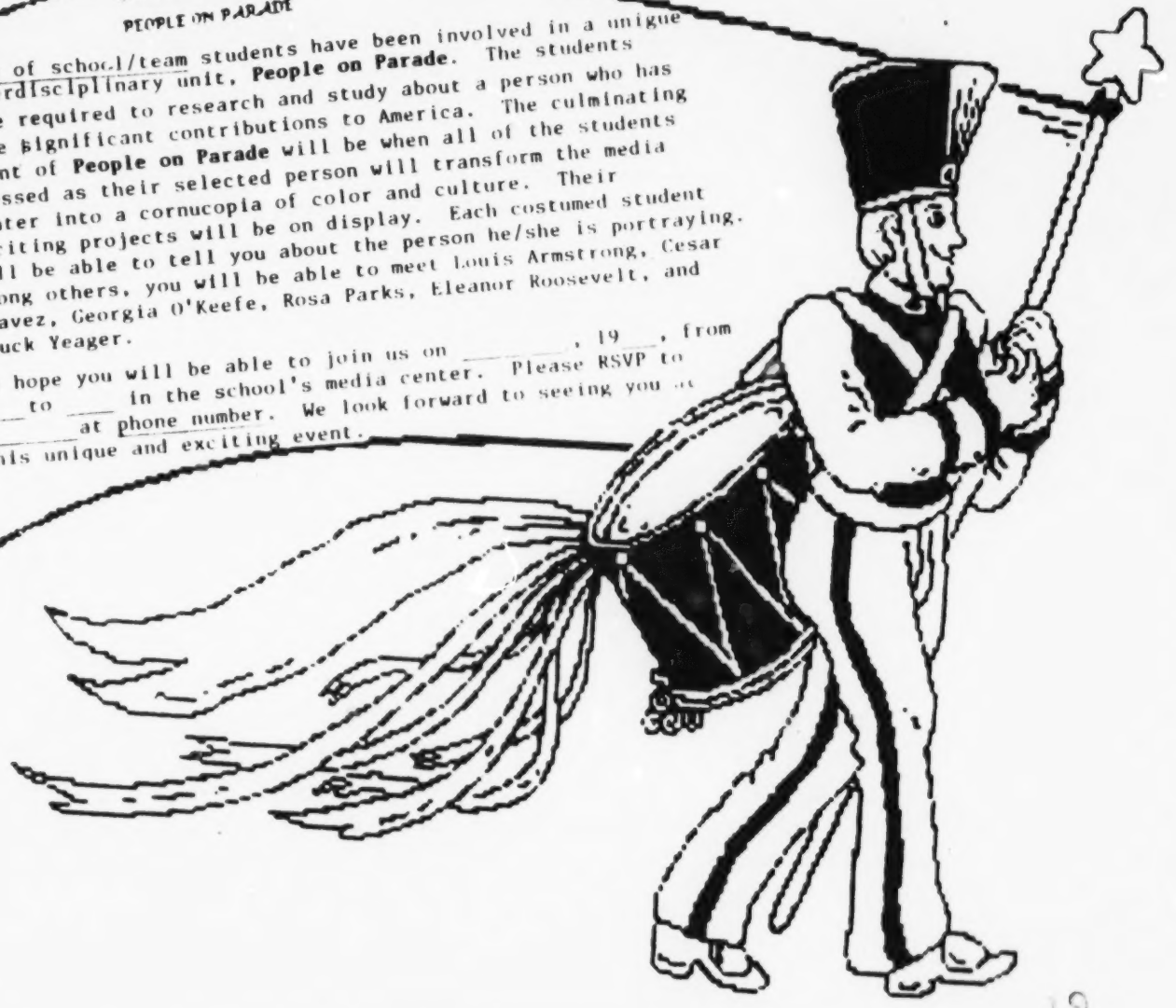
LIST TEACHER'S NAMES

YOU ARE INVITED TO

PEOPLE ON PARADE

Name of school/team students have been involved in a unique interdisciplinary unit, **People on Parade**. The students were required to research and study about a person who has made significant contributions to America. The culminating event of **People on Parade** will be when all of the students dressed as their selected person will transform the media center into a cornucopia of color and culture. Their exciting projects will be on display. Each costumed student will be able to tell you about the person he/she is portraying. Among others, you will be able to meet Louis Armstrong, Cesar Chavez, Georgia O'Keefe, Rosa Parks, Eleanor Roosevelt, and Chuck Yeager.

We hope you will be able to join us on _____, 19___, from ____ to ____ in the school's media center. Please RSVP to _____ at phone number. We look forward to seeing you at this unique and exciting event.



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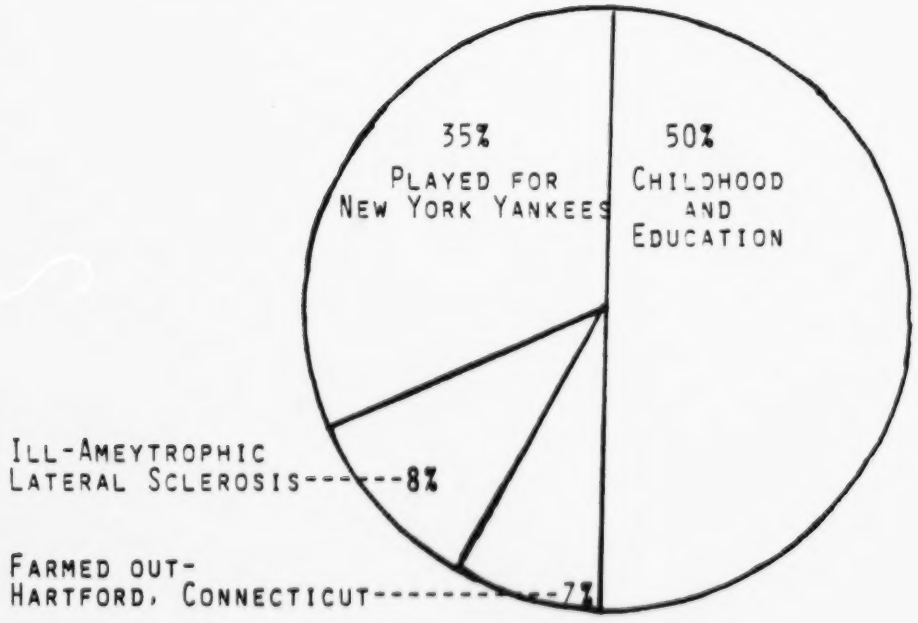
SAMPLE PROJECTS

CIRCLE GRAPH

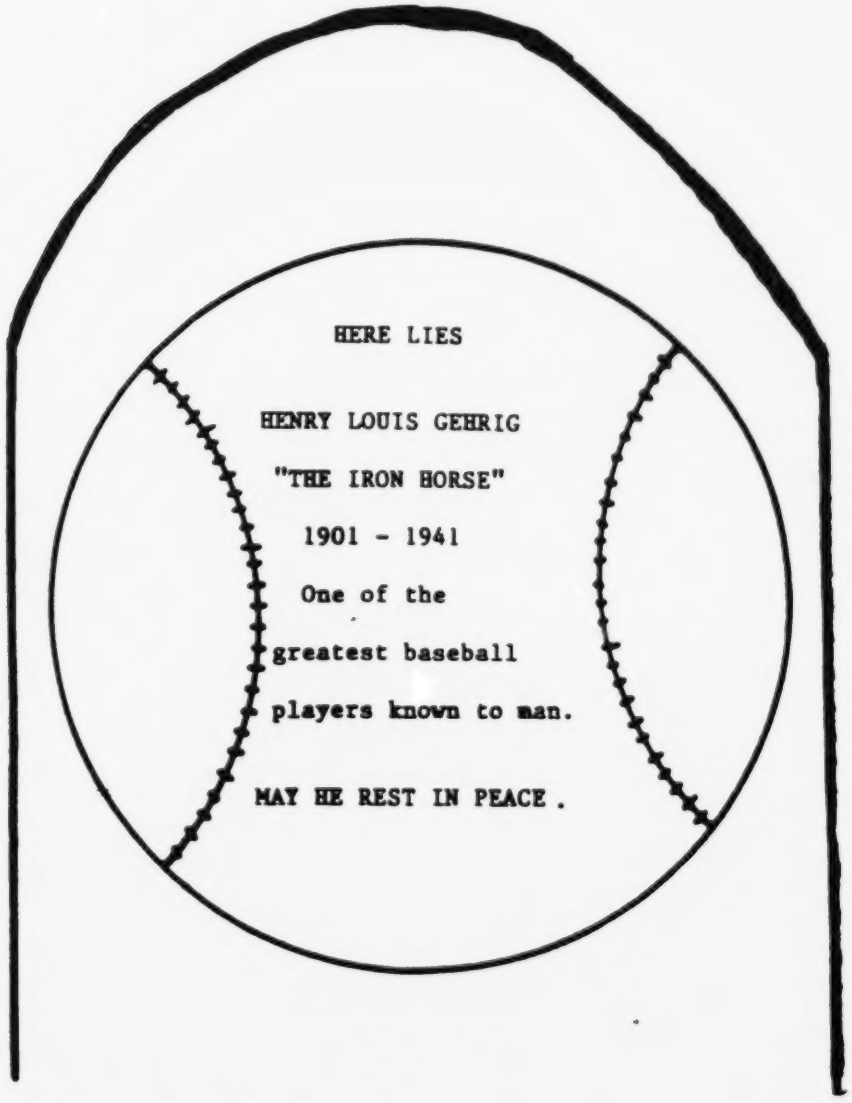


THE LIFE GRAPH
OF
LOU GEHRIG

THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS AND TOMBSTONE ILLUSTRATIONS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE STUDENTS AS A HANDOUT. THE TEACHER SHOULD GO OVER THE DEFINITIONS WITH THE STUDENTS TO MAKE SURE THEY UNDERSTAND THEM.

EPITAPH - AN INSCRIPTION, ESPECIALLY ON A TOMBSTONE, IN MEMORY OF A PERSON.

TOMBSTONE - A STONE MARKING A GRAVE.



Birth Certificate

Volume no. 12	Folio no. 37 of 38	Certificate no. 363	Town of birth: Oxford

Date of registration: 26th day December month 1821 year	Date of birth: 25 day December month 1821 year
Name of person registered: Clarissa Harlowe Barton	Sex: ☐ male ☒ female
Name of father: Stephen Barton	Place of Birth: Oxford, Massachusetts
Name of mother: Sail y Stone	Place of Birth: Oxford, Massachusetts
Town: Oxford State: Massachusetts	Date of Issue: 23 day April month 1991 year
Time of Birth: 1:45 P.M	Baby's weight: 7 1/8 pounds
Baby's length: 23 inches	

Baby's foot prints

John T. Flood M.D.
Signature of attending physician

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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q. Can People on Parade be used in a single subject area?

A. Yes. For example, a science teacher could adapt this unit or parts of this unit to be used in as a science classroom project titled Famous Scientists.

Q. Can People on Parade be used in an ESE classroom?

A. Certainly. Adjustments would need to be made to meet the needs of the students.

Q. Can students select a person that is not on the list the teacher hands out?

A. Yes. The person must fit into the established time frame and meet the other project criteria.

Q. Can this project only be used in United States History classes?

A. No. It is easily adaptable for other subject areas, time periods and grade levels. It could be easily adapted to world figures, past and present, literary figures, etc.

Q. Did the students use note cards when delivering the monologue?

A. They had note cards with key cue words on them. However, most students did not need to refer to the note cards. Again, adjustments to fit the ability level of the students should be made.

Q. What happened to the students who did not come in costume on the designated day?

A. Only two students did not participate in People on Parade in the media center. They were sent with an assignment to another classroom.

Q. DID THE STUDENTS HAVE TO HAND IN A WRITTEN REPORT?

A. NO. STUDENTS ONLY PRESENTED THE REQUIRED AND OPTIONAL PROJECTS IN CLASS AND MADE A DISPLAY OF ALL OF THEIR WORK FOR THE MEDIA CENTER DISPLAY.

Q. WAS THERE STUDENT AND PARENT FEEDBACK ABOUT PEOPLE ON PARADE?

A. YES. BOTH STUDENTS AND PARENTS REACTED POSITIVELY ABOUT THE PROJECT. STUDENTS ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT PEOPLE ON PARADE.

Q. WHAT HAPPENS IF A STUDENT CAN NOT LOCATE ENOUGH INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON SELECTED?

A. THE STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE ANOTHER SELECTION, AS LONG AS NO OTHER STUDENT HAS ALREADY SELECTED THE PERSON AND ALL OTHER CRITERIA IS MET.

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